

## Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KIGALI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 183446

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CG, AN, US

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS WITH GOVERNMENTS OF ZAIRE, ANGOLA  
AND CONGO

REF: STATE 172815 (NOTAL)

1. REFTEL WAS USED TO BRIEF EUROPEAN ADDRESSEES  
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GOVERNMENTS AND GOVERNMENT OF ZAMBIA, IN GENERAL TERMS,  
AS TO OUR THEN-INTENDED EXPLORATION OF WHAT FURTHER  
STEPS MIGHT BE TAKEN TO LOWER TENSIONS BETWEEN KINSHASA  
AND LUANDA. THIS TELEGRAM IS INTENDED TO CONVEY, AGAIN  
IN GENERAL TERMS, FOR EMBASSIES INFORMATION AND THAT OF  
THE EUROPEAN GOVERNMENT ADDRESSEES AND THE GOZ THE OUTCOME  
OF THE CONSULTATIONS WHICH DID TAKE PLACE.

2. DEPARTMENT REITERATES CAVEAT AT PARA. 8 REFTEL. IT CONTINUES TO BE IMPORTANT THAT THE RECENT HELPFUL TURN IN ZAIRIAN/ANGOLAN RELATIONS BE PERCEIVED AS AN AFRICAN INITIATIVE, AND THAT THE AMERICAN FACILITATIVE ROLE NOT BE EXPOSED. EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS REPRESENTED IN LUANDA ARE AWARE OF AF/C DIRECTOR JUNIOR'S TRIP THERE, OF COURSE, BUT WE TRUST THEY WILL HANDLE THEIR INFORMATION WITH DUE DISCRETION.

3. EUROPEAN ADDRESSEES AND LUSAKA ARE REQUESTED TO CONVEY SUBSTANCE OF PARAGRAPHS 4 AND 5 BELOW TO HOST GOVERNMENTS.

4. OUR CONVERSATIONS IN KINSHASA WITH PRESIDENT MOBUTU REVEALED A CAUTIOUS BUT DEFINITE WILLINGNESS ON HIS PART TO ENTER INTO A PROCESS WHICH MIGHT LEAD TO AN INCREASING SENSE OF SECURITY ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ZAIRIAN/ANGOLAN BORDER. HIS KEY POINT WAS THE FUNDAMENTAL NECESSITY OF VERIFICATION OF ADHERENCE BY BOTH SIDES TO THEIR UNDERTAKINGS, ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDER, BY A NEUTRAL GROUP UNDER OAU AEGIS. PRESIDENT MOBUTU ALSO SHOWED A WILLINGNESS TO UNDERTAKE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE ANGOLANS ON THIS SUBJECT EITHER PRIOR TO OR DURING THE KHARTOUM OAU SUMMIT, OR BOTH.

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5. WITH MOBUTU'S APPROVAL, WE CONVEYED HIS VIEWS TO SENIOR OFFICIALS (FYI - PRIME MINISTER NASCIMENTO AND CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER LUVUALU END FYI) OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ANGOLA. THE ANGOLAN RESPONSE WAS GUARDED BUT GENERALLY POSITIVE, AND LED TO THE ZAIRIAN/ANGOLAN MEETING IN BRAZZAVILLE JULY 15-17 WHICH RESULTED IN AGREEMENT OF CREATION OF A BORDER VERIFICATION COMMISSION UNDER OAU AUSPICES, VOLUNTARY RETURN OF REFUGEES, AND REOPENING OF THE BENGUELA RAILROAD. THE FINAL DETAILS HAVE YET TO BE WORKED OUT BUT THE AGREEMENT IS DUE TO BE SIGNED JULY 22.

6. FYI. ACCORDING TO EMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE, ACCORD WOULD BE "BROUGHT TO KHARTOUM", PRESUMABLY FOR OAU ENDORSEMENT AND CREATION OF VERIFICATION TEAM. BRAZZAVILLE REPORTS THAT ZAIRIAN NOMINEES FOR TEAM WOULD BE SUDAN AND RWANDA, AND THAT ANGOLA HAS CHOSEN NIGERIA AND CAMEROON. END FYI.

7. FYI. GIVEN HISTORY OF DISTRUST AND DISCORD BETWEEN ZAIRE AND ANGOLA IT IS DIFFICULT TO BE SANGUINE THAT ALL THE NECESSARY DETAILS OF VERIFICATION, WIDTH OF BORDER

ZONE, ETC. WILL BE WORKED OUT SMOOTHLY. NEVERTHELESS,  
THE RELATIVELY UPBEAT TONE OF THESE BRAZZAVILLE TALKS  
GIVE SOME ENCOURAGEMENT TO THE HOPE THAT BOTH SIDES MAY  
NOW AGREE THAT A PRAGMATIC AND PHASED DEESCALATION OF  
TENSIONS WILL SERVE THEIR MUTUAL INTERESTS. END FYI. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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